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LETTER DATED 14 SEPTEMBER 1995 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF AFGHANISTAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to forward herewith a letter dated 14 September 1995, addressed to you by Mr. Abdul Rahim Ghafoorzai, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) A. G. Ravan FARHADI
Permanent Representative

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Annex

Letter dated 14 September 1995 from the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan addressed to the Secretary-General

Pursuant to our letter dated 6 September 1995 (S/1995/767), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic State of Afghanistan would like to bring to your careful attention the following points, which are directly connected with the vital question of peace and security in our region.

It is sincerely hoped that the contents of this letter will receive serious and judicious consideration followed by practical actions on your part.

The western parts of Afghanistan, including the city of Herat, have been overrun by the Pakistani militia, backed by Pakistani regular air and ground forces, in collusion with the mercenaries known as Taliban, forged by the Pakistani Interservice Intelligence, in an attempt to impose the subsequent transfer of power to a Pakistani-approved regime in Kabul. Otherwise, Herat has stood as a model of healthy administration, tranquillity and security during the last three years.

As a result of this violent aggression and the bombardment involved, a large number of innocent residents of Herat, including security personnel, have been killed or had to leave their homes, thus becoming displaced persons. Others were killed in the barbaric bombardments and violent treatment of the population by the occupying forces.

There are incontestable reports saying that hundreds of Pakistani military personnel marched inside the city, while thousands of Herat residents were witnessing the tragic episode, and were posted in the Herat central military garrison.

We would like to make clear once again that these acts of aggression have been contrary to internationally respected norms. The Islamic State of Afghanistan considers the Pakistani infringement on Herat and its subsequent occupation as totally intolerable and emphatically calls your attention to the point that the situation developing out of this direct aggression will bear grave and irreparable consequences for peace and security in our region.

The Islamic State of Afghanistan forecasts the outcome of this new tension as alarming and perilous and earnestly calls on you to dispatch promptly a fact-finding mission to western Afghanistan in order to report during the consultations to the Security Council, before Pakistani militia and mercenaries known as Taliban find time to conceal the evidence of their aggression.

This United Nations fact-finding team could be mandated to track down the presence of foreign forces and to prove that the acts of aggression occurred.

One dimension of this flegrant Pakistani aggression against the territorial integrity of Afghanistan is that the Pakistani authorities speculated about the

opposition and resistance of the people of Herat against the Taliban mercenaries, installed as the puppet military rulers, and therefore the forthcoming collapse of their administration in Herat. This is why, since 9 September 1995, Pakistani military transport planes and military land transport vehicles have begun the systematic and speedy carriage of heavy and light weapons from Herat towards Quetta, Pakistan.

The Islamic State of Afghanistan considers this act as the pillage by Pakistan of the national property of Afghanistan and calls upon the United Nations to take urgent steps to stop these acts of plundering.

The Islamic State of Afghanistan reserves its rights to have recourse to legal and other proceedings at international level against Pakistan and to ask that country to return the property of Afghanistan.

While expressing great surprise over the fact that not a single word has been uttered by the United Nations Special Mission led by H.E. Mahmood Mestiri over the blatant Pakistani aggression in Afghanistan, thus proving his lack of interest in the territorial integrity of the country, I vigorously call for your attention to the initial responsibility assigned to the Special Mission by paragraph 4 of resolution 49/140 adopted by the General Assembly on 20 December 1994. It calls upon all States to respect Afghanistan's sovereignty and territorial integrity and strictly refrain from interfering in the internal affairs of Afghanistan.

The Islamic State of Afghanistan would like to assure you that the freedom-loving people of Afghanistan do realize their prime national obligation to liberate the western parts of Afghanistan, including occupied Herat, and to force the Pakistani militia out of the area by a general and resolute armed struggle, in favour of the country's political and administrative unity. The Islamic State of Afghanistan would, if necessary, call for a formal meeting of the Security Council to consider the events in west Afghanistan and to take appropriate action for putting an end to the present illegal situation. We already see it as highly imperative to note that, since part of the country is occupied by outside forces, the Islamic State of Afghanistan considers it its legitimate right to bring the question of the state of occupation up as the most pressing issue for the next round of the United Nations peace efforts.

(Signed) Abdul Rahim GHAFOORZAI
Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs